

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

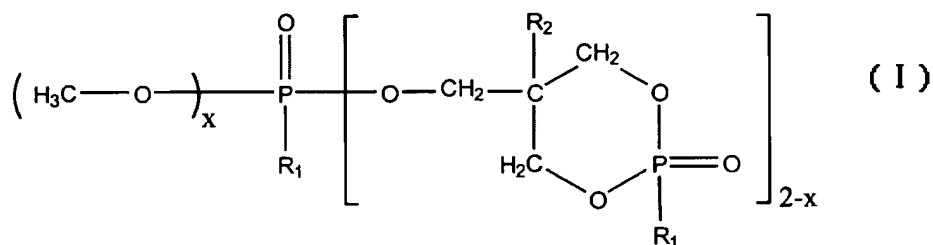
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (original). A flame retardant styrenic resin composition comprising:

(A) 70 to 99.5 parts by weight of a rubber-modified polystyrene resin; and

(B) 0.5 to 20 parts by weight of a ring-shaped alkyl phosphonic acid ester compound represented by the following formula (I):



wherein R_1 and R_2 are independently of each other C_1 - C_4 alkyl and x is 0 or 1.

Claim 2 (canceled).

Claim 3 (previously presented). The flame retardant styrenic resin composition as defined in claim 1, further comprising up to 10 parts by weight of a polyphenylene ether (C).

Claim 4 (original). The flame retardant styrenic resin composition as defined in claim 3, wherein said polyphenylene ether (C) is poly(2,6-dimethyl-1,4-phenylene)ether.

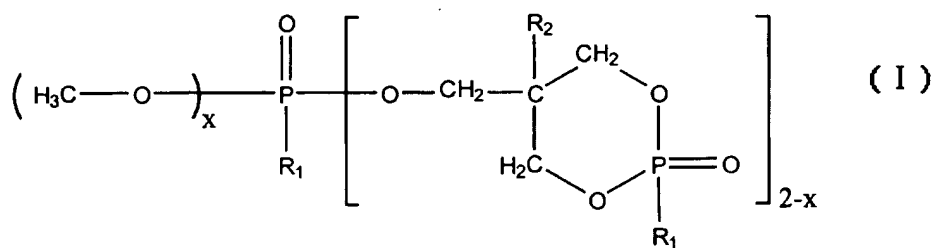
Claim 5 (original). The flame retardant styrenic resin composition as defined in claim 1, which further comprises up to 50 parts by weight of an additive selected from the group consisting of plasticizers, heat stabilizers, anti-oxidants, light stabilizers, compatibilizers, pigment, dye and/or inorganic filler per 100 parts by weight of rubber modified styrenic resin (A).

Claim 6 and 7 (canceled).

Claim 8 (currently amended). A flame retardant styrenic resin composition comprising:

(A) 70 to 99.5 parts by weight of a ~~rubber-modified polystyrene resin;~~ base resin prepared by blending a rubber, an aromatic mono-alkenyl monomer and/or an alkyl ester monomer and polymerizing the blend, and

(B) 0.5 to 6 20 parts by weight of a ring-shaped alkyl phosphonic acid ester compound represented by the following formula (I):



wherein R_1 and R_2 are independently of each other C_1 - C_4 alkyl and x is 0 or 1.

Claims 9 (canceled).

Claim 10 (currently amended). A flame retardant styrenic resin composition according to claim 8 wherein the rubber is blended with ~~comprising:~~

~~(A) 70 to 99.5 parts by weight of a rubber-modified polystyrene resin; and~~

~~(B) 0.5 to 20 parts by weight of methyl-bis (5-ethyl-2-methyl-1,3,2-dioxaphorinan-5yl) methyl methyl phosphonic acid ester P-oxide or methyl-bis(5-ethyl-2-methyl-1,3,2-dioxaphorinan-5yl) phosphonic acid ester P, P'-dioxide~~ styrene monomer, acrylic acid ester monomer, methacrylic acid ester monomer, or a mixture thereof.

Claim 11 (new). A flame retardant styrenic resin composition according to claim 8 containing 0.5 to 6 parts by weight of (B).

Claim 12 (new). A flame retardant styrenic resin composition according to claim 8 containing 0.5 to 2 parts by weight of (B).

Claim 13 (new). A flame retardant styrenic resin composition according to claim 8 wherein the base resin is prepared by blending the rubber with a homopolymer of styrene.

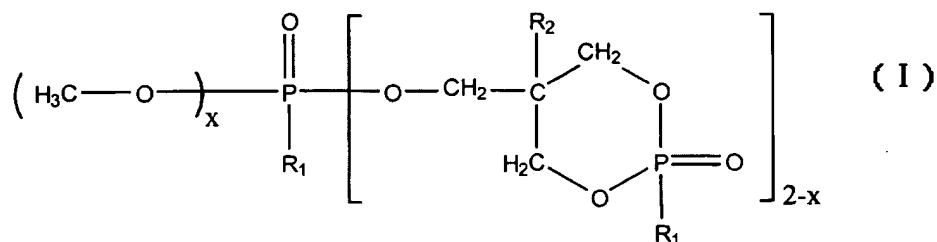
Claim 14 (new). The flame retardant styrenic resin composition as defined in claim 8 containing an amount of polyphenylene ether (C) wherein the amount of (C) is less than or equal to 10 parts by weight.

Claim 15 (new). The flame retardant styrenic resin composition as defined in claim 14 containing 5 parts by weight of a polyphenylene ether (C).

Claim 16 (new). A flame retardant styrenic resin composition comprising:

(A) 70 to 99.5 parts by weight of a rubber-modified polystyrene resin; and

(B) 0.5 to 20 parts by weight of a ring-shaped alkyl phosphonic acid ester compound represented by the following formula (I):



wherein R_1 and R_2 are independently of each other C_1 - C_4 alkyl and x is 0 or 1, and

(C) polyphenylene ether wherein an amount of polyphenylene ether is present in the composition and the amount of (C) is 10 parts by weight or less.

Claim 17 (new). The flame retardant styrenic resin composition as defined in claim 16 containing 10 parts by weight of a polyphenylene ether (C).

Claim 18 (new). The flame retardant styrenic resin composition as defined in claim 17 containing 5 parts by weight of a polyphenylene ether (C).

Claim 19 (new). A flame retardant styrenic resin composition according to claim 16 containing 0.5 to 6 parts by weight of (B).

Claim 20 (new). A flame retardant styrenic resin composition according to claim 17 containing 0.5 to 2 parts by weight of (B).

Claim 21 (new). A flame retardant styrenic resin composition according to claim 1 containing 0.5 to 6 parts by weight of (B).

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Claim 22 (new). A flame retardant styrenic resin composition according to claim 1 containing 0.5 to 2 parts by weight of (B).

Claim 23 (new). A flame retardant styrenic resin composition according to claim 1 wherein (B) is 0.5 to 20 parts by weight of methyl-bis (5-ethyl-2-methyl-1,3,2-dioxaphorinan-5yl) methyl methyl phosphonic acid ester P-oxide or methyl- bis(5-ethyl-2-methyl- 1,3,2-dioxaphorinan-5yl) phosphonic acid ester P, P'-dioxide or a mixture thereof.

Claim 24 (new). A flame retardant styrenic resin composition according to claim 8 consisting essentially of (A) and (B).